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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | Application Number | 09/578,895 | | | |
| | | | Filing Date | May 19, 2003 | | | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | YAMAZAKI et al | | | |
| | | | Group Art Unit | 2811 | | | |
| | | | Examiner Name | Gene M. Munson | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 740756-2160 | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials [*] | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | | |
| | | 5,642,213 | | Mase et al | June 24, 1997 | | |
| | | no copy received | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| | | Office ² | Number ² Kind Code ² (if known) | | | | |
| | | | EP 1 001 467 A2 | Yamazaki et al. | 05/17/2000 | | |
| | | | JP 2002149112 | Koyama | 05/24/2002 | | Ab |
| | | | no copies received | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials [*] | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | | | T ³ |
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| | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Signature | G. MUNSON | | | | Date Considered | 6 OCTOBER 2003 | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| | | | | First Named Inventor | YAMAZAKI et al |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | 2811 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Gene M. Munson |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 740756-2160 |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | |
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| | | 5,642,213 | Musc et al | June 24, 1997 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials ¹ | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Office Number ⁴ Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | EP 1 801 467 A2 | Yamazaki et al | 05/15/2000 | |
| | | JP 2002149112 | Koyama | 05/24/2002 | Ab |
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| | | | | | |
| Examiner Signature | G. MUNSON | | | Date Considered | 3 MAY 2004 |

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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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